

**McPherson County Board of Commissioners**  
**Minutes of Proceedings**  
**June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in the Commissions chambers. Chairman Rick Beilke called the meeting to order at 9:00AM. Members present were Sid Feickert, Anthony Kunz, Jeff Neuharth, and Mark Opp.

Neuharth moved and Opp seconded to approve the June 6<sup>th</sup> agenda. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Neuharth declared a conflict with the Highway Department summer help discussion and setting salary.

Opp moved and Feickert seconded to approve the minutes of the May 7<sup>th</sup> commissioner meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS APPROVED:**

Agtegra, Hwy/Courthouse/Soil Dist Supplies, \$9,694.70; Amazon, Supplies, \$361.41; Aramark, Supplies, \$608.95; ATT, Cellphone/Hotspot, \$461.59; Auto Value, Hwy Supplies, \$11.98; Sue Brown-Hudson, Election Wages/Miles, \$242.04; Century Business Products, Printer Contract, \$23.59; Gentry Croshaw, Election Wages/Miles, \$242.04; CRS, Inmate Insurance, \$40.61; Sharel Delzer, Election Wages/Miles, \$272.04; Dickey Rural Telephone Coop, Server Maint/Backup, \$145.89; Jacalyn Eberhart, Election Wages/Miles, \$241.02; Election Systems & Software, Election Supplies, \$1,732.96; Trisha Erdmann, Reimb/Miles, \$54.77; Sheila Erdmann, Election Wages/Miles, \$60.30; Eureka City, Utilities, \$86.00; ECDC, State's Attorney Office Rent, \$600.00; Eureka Fire Dept, Use of Firehall, \$50.00; FEM, Utilities/Outlet, \$1,293.66; Kathy Gab, Election Wages/Miles, \$305.70; Gene's Oil, Fuel, \$6,568.06; Brooke Graves, Conf Prize, \$49.91; Heartland Waste, Utilities, \$80.00; Austin Hoffman, Reimbursements, \$3,672.95; Johnny & Renee Schwingler, Excise Tax, \$70.42; Joelle Johnson, Election Wages/Miles, \$276.72; Perry Kessler, Election Wages/Miles, \$256.32; Kimball Midwest, Hwy Supplies, \$424.94; Leola Legion Bar, Election Meals, \$40.00; Jacqueline Leibel, Election Wages/Miles, \$45.51; Leola City, Utilities, \$182.49; Linde Gas & Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$168.97; McPherson Co Herald, Publishing, \$1,176.24; MDU, Utilities, \$809.21; Menard's, Cords, \$67.55; Microfilm Imaging, ROD/M&P Equipment Rent, \$364.40; Newman Traffic Signs, Hwy Supplies, \$342.24; NW Blade, Publishing, \$2,062.36; Janene Playle, Election Wages/Miles, \$242.04; Premier Equipment, Hwy Supplies, \$849.37; Quill, Paper, \$194.95; Ramkota Hotel-Pierre, Conf Hotel, \$464.00; Jackie Rau, Reimb/Election Wages, \$159.61; Ron's Service Center, Oil Change/Filter, \$204.17; Kristin Schauer, Election Wages/Miles, \$245.10; Ina Schock, Election Wages/Miles, \$240.00; SDACC, Hwy Workshop, \$100.00; SDVSOA, Conf, \$50.00; Share Corporation, \$580.60; Sioux Falls Two Way Radio SVC, Charger, \$80.98; Streicher's Inc, Supplies, \$157.96; The Lodge at Deadwood, Conf Room, \$363.00; Tools Plus Industries, Hwy Supplies, \$79.96; USPS, PO Box Renewal, \$804.00; Valleytel, Phone/Internet, \$1,138.45; Visa, Hwy Supplies, \$149.64; Visa, Supplies/Sub, \$385.83; Judy Weiszhaar, Election Wages/Miles, \$250.20; Becky Wolff, Election Wages/Miles, \$240.00; Cortrust, Deliq Tax/Auto Deposit Fee, \$2,166.27; State Treasurer, Money Due to State, \$60,853.25; State Treasurer, Sales/Excise Tax, \$17.46; SDACC, M&P April Fees, \$124.00; April 2024 Apportionment remitted to Cities/Schools/Townships/Fire Districts, \$2,061,229.73; May Payroll Reimbursements: Lindley Howard, Workshop Reimb, \$118.62; Tiffany Weiszhaar, Meals, \$52.00; Vicki Geffre, Workshop Reimb, \$213.16; Samantha Boshard, Miles, \$35.70; Curtis Hoff, Miles, \$6.12; Ronnie Ehresman, Miles, \$31.62.

Neuharth moved and Kunz seconded to approve the forgoing claims. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**SALARIES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:**

Commissioners, \$6,637.10; Auditor, \$9,596.96; Treasurer, \$9,405.87; State's Attorney, \$6,682.26; Government Building, \$4,567.20; Director of Equalization, \$14,505.60; Register of Deeds, \$9,505.87; Veteran Service Officers, \$2,569.06; Sheriff, \$6,717.75; Extension, \$4,463.12; Weed Control, \$285.00; Road & Bridge, \$47,823.60; Emergency Management, \$166.67; Eureka Joint Law, \$4,596.66; Leola Joint Law, \$5,196.66.

McPherson County's Share of the following:

Social Security and Medicare: CorTrust Bank: \$9,840.64

Insurance: American Family, \$373.25; Avera, \$3,375.96; Guardian Vision, \$114.36; MetLife, \$151.00;

South Dakota Retirement System, \$7,451.12; Colonial Life Vision, \$57.18.

**ADDED/INCREASED SALARIES**

Kunz moved and Neuharth seconded to add the following salary as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, Jorge Olivar, deputy sheriff, \$48,972.12/year (For 2080 hours), \$4,081.01/month. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Feickert moved and Kunz seconded to add the following salaries Connor Spitzer, part time summer help, \$18/hour as of 5/28; Adam Neuharth, part time summer help, \$18/hour as of 6/5. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Opp moved and Kunz seconded to increase Stanton Spitzer and Curt Schumacher, skilled part-time hwy with CDL, salaries to \$27/hour beginning June 2024 payroll. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED AND ACTION TAKEN:**

Brenda Waage – GROW SD

Brenda Waage a housing loan officer with GROW SD gave the commission the 2023 Report and Annual Report. She also presented GROW SD's 2025 budget request.

Sheriff Department

Sheriff Dave Ackerman introduced Jorge Olivar to the board. Olivar started on June 1<sup>st</sup> and will fill the Leola deputy sheriff position. Kunz moved and Neuharth seconded to have the chairman sign Jorge Olivar's employment contract and employment certification. All voted in favor. Motion carried

Ackerman discussed updates to SD511 which allows counties to use 511 to update the public on county road conditions, road closures and county travel alerts. Neuharth moved and Kunz seconded to have Glenn Spitzer and Lindley Howard authorized, in addition to Dave Ackerman, to post updates. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Eureka Municipal Building

Discussion was held on how purchase of the Eureka Municipal building would aid the sheriff's department, Veterans Service officer and provide office space for the State's Attorney. The building has been offered to the county for \$90,000. Questions were raised on the yearly maintenance/upkeep costs. Kunz moved and Neuharth seconded to offer the City of Eureka 90,000 for the building. Upon roll call vote: Kunz and Neuharth 'Aye'; Feickert, Opp and Beilke 'Nay'. Motion failed.

Several questions will be sent to the city council and the commission will attend the next city council meeting. A notice of a quorum will be posted.

The Commission will also seek the public's input in a public hearing at 9:10AM at the July 2<sup>nd</sup> commission meeting.

#### 2024 Primary Election Canvass

Kunz moved and Opp seconded to convene as the McPherson County Election Canvassing Board for the purpose of canvassing the votes from the June 4<sup>th</sup> Primary Election. The board unsealed the unofficial election results and pollbooks. The results were compared to the pollbooks and canvass report. The commission completed the canvass reconciliation and checked against each precinct's reconciliation report from election night. Results were also checked against the SDSOS Election Results page from election night.

Neuharth moved and Kunz seconded to declare the June 4<sup>th</sup> election results as correct and to sign the canvass certificate. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Opp moved and Kunz seconded to have the Auditor sign and issue the certificates of election to precinct committeemen, committeewomen and delegates to the state convention. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Voter turnout for McPherson County was 40.46%, this was the 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the state! The post-election audit has been set for June 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 11am in the courtroom in the Courthouse in Leola. 100% of the precincts, ballots and races will be audited. A random draw was performed per 12-17B-20 for reimbursement purposes, Precinct 3 was drawn, statewide contest drawn: Democratic Presidential, second contest drawn: District 23 Senate. The chairman and auditor signed the Selection for Audit. The canvassing board was adjourned, and the board reconvened as the board of McPherson County commissioners.

#### Drainage Board

At 10:40AM Neuharth moved, and Kunz seconded to meet as the McPherson County Drainage Commission. All voted in favor. Motion carried. The Drainage Commission meets concurrently with the Board of Commissioners and their minutes are listed in a separate section.

#### Public Comments/Concerns

At 10:50AM no public concerns were heard on non-agenda items.

#### Eureka Municipal Building

The Eureka City Council has offered the Eureka Municipal Building to the county for \$90,000. Maintenance and upkeep costs were discussed along with several questions the commission had. Kunz moved and Neuharth seconded to purchase the Eureka Municipal Building for \$90,000. Upon roll call vote: Kunz and Neuharth voted 'Aye'; Feickert, Opp and Beilke voted 'Nay'. Motion failed. A public forum for public input on the purchase was scheduled for July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:10AM. The list of questions will be sent to the council and discussed at the June 11<sup>th</sup> council meeting with Kunz and Sheriff Ackerman attending.

#### Grinding County Roads

Sam Wipf, on behalf of Spring Creek Colony, met with the board to discuss County Road 2. Glen Spitzer discussed the road with the board. Due to the cost to maintain the road as gravel with the high traffic count, the commission, Wipf and Spitzer agreed that grinding was not a viable option.

Spitzer placed a traffic counter on county road 18. Discussion was held on taking county road 18 off the reseal schedule.

#### Highway Department

Spitzer went over the reseal schedule. The main breakup is on County 23 south of Hwy 10, County 16 and County 18. County 23 which was recently ground has several soft spots that need to be stabilized.

#### Executive Session 1-25-2(1)

Opp moved and Feickert seconded to enter executive session at 11:40AM to discuss personnel matters. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Neuharth moved and Feickert seconded to exit executive session at 12:10PM. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

As a result of executive session, Feickert moved, and Kunz seconded to hire Connor Spitzer and Adam Neuharth for part-summer help at \$18/hour and to appoint Rick Rau as Connor Spitzer's supervisor. Upon roll call vote: Kunz, Feickert, Opp and Beilke voted 'Aye', Neuharth abstained. Motion carried.

#### Highway Department

Discussion was held on the rate of pay for part-time skilled workers that hold a CDL, starting rate for new employees was also discussed. Opp moved and Kunz seconded to increase the rate of pay to \$27/hour for part-time skilled workers that hold a CDL; and to set the starting rate of pay at \$20-\$25/hour depending on experience. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

#### State's Attorney

The commission reviewed the prepared reimbursement based on the motion made in May 2024.

#### Meeting Authorization

Neuharth moved and Feickert seconded to approve the following meetings: Dawn Jenner to attend the SDACHS Dept Workshop June 25<sup>th</sup> in Huron and Glenn Spitzer to attend the summer meeting June 12-13 in Pierre. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

#### Miscellaneous Items and Reports

Neuharth moved and Opp seconded to follow the State of South Dakota and grant July 5<sup>th</sup> as a holiday. All voted in favor. Motion carried. The following miscellaneous items and reports were reviewed and approved: VSO Hours May 2024, Register of Deeds statement of fees collected during the month of May 2024 for the amount of \$5,326.50, Register of Deed's Modernization and Preservation fees collected during month of May 2024 for the amount of \$325.00, Auditor's Account with the County Treasurer as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 as follows: total amount of deposits in Leola Bank, \$281,635.62; total amount of actual cash, \$944.50; total amount of checks and drafts in treasurer's possession not exceeding three days, \$36,957.91; Itemized list of all items, checks and drafts in the Treasurer's possession over three days, \$1,263.68; CD's, \$1,181,774.94; Super savings, \$2,295,386.97; total, \$3,797,963.62.

The next regular Board of Commissioners meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 2nd beginning at 9AM.

At 12:35PM Neuharth moved and Opp seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Lindley Howard

McPherson County Auditor

Rick Beilke

Chairman of Board of Commissioners